



City of Blairsville, GA
Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
September 1, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.
62 Blue Ridge Street, Blairsville, GA 30512
Via Teleconference

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Jim Conley
Councilmember Robert Moore
Councilmember Tony Dyer
Councilmember Betty Easter
Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook

STAFF PRESENT:

Kaye McCann, City Clerk
Jody Cook, WWTP
Michael Baxter, PD Chief
Aaron Mannheim, Airport
Joan Mannheim, Accounting

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Barrett, City Attorney
Steve Rowe, BUCCC President
Shawn Jarrard, North Georgia News
Lauren Souther, Fetch Your News
Pat Malone, WJRB
David Dyer, UC Fire Chief
Suzanne Carpenter, Matt Leonard
Doy Lively
WAGA TV

Invocation: Invocation was led by City Attorney David Barrett.

Call Meeting to Order: Mayor Conley called the meeting to order 6:05 p.m.

Agenda & Minutes Approval: Mayor Conley stated he would like to move the discussion of leachate processing to after the approval of the minutes. Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Cook, Easter, Moore and Dyer – to approve the proposed agenda with the change stated by Mayor Conley. Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Dyer, Easter, Cook and Moore – to dispense of the reading and approve minutes as written from the 8/4/20 regular council meeting.

Because of concerns of the Mayor and Council regarding the leachate, Mayor Conley asked for a motion to cease the acceptance and discontinue the processing of leachate at the waste water treatment plant. Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Moore, Easter, Cook and Dyer – to cease the acceptance and discontinue the processing of leachate.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

- Mayor Conley presented the following applications for alcohol licenses:
 - 301 Hwy 515 Foodmart, LLC, 434 Highway 515, Rozina Kherani, Applicant – Malt Beverages and Wine by the Package
 - Lucky's Taco Shop, 17 Merchants Walk, Matthew Leonard, Applicant – Malt Beverage, Wine and Distilled Spirits on the PremisesMotion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Easter, Moore, Dyer and Cook – to approve the issuance of alcohol licenses to the applicants stated above.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Cook, Moore, Dyer and Easter – to set the 2020 millage rate at 1.895 mills.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Easter, Moore, Dyer and Cook – to approve the 5% increase in health insurance and continue group benefits with Anthem through GMA.
- After brief discussion regarding audit services for the FYE 2020 a motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Betty Easter with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Moore, Easter, Cook and Dyer – to have Rushton perform the audit services for the 2020 fiscal year.

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- Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Easter, Moore, Cook and Dyer – to ratify payment in the amount of \$10,000 to Nelson’s Tree Services for the removal of debris from the culvert under the Blairsville Airport runway.
- Motion was made by Councilmember Tony Dyer, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Dyer, Moore, Cook and Easter – to ratify expenditures in the amount of \$93,842.26 for the parking lot project between City Hall and the Police Department. Unforeseen problems caused the project expenditures to be higher than originally expected.
- Mayor Conley asked for the council’s opinion on continuing to hold council meetings via teleconference or going back to in person meetings. Councilmembers Cook, Dyer and Easter agreed to in person meetings; Councilmember Moore felt meetings should continue via teleconference citing cases have doubled in the month of August. Councilmember Cook suggested taking it month by month.

Consent Agenda:

- Motion was made by Councilmember Robert Moore, seconded by Councilmember Mary Ruth Cook with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Moore, Cook, Easter and Dyer – to approve the following consent agenda items:
 - Occupational Tax Certificate – JSK Dental Services; 342 Pat Haralson Drive; Joyce Kim, Owner – Dentist
 - Sign Permit – Mountain Life Mercantile; 36A Town Square; Sarah Gazzara, Applicant – General Mercantile Store
 - Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit – Carter & Cash Clothing Company; 307 Cleveland Street, Ste G; Megan Shook, Owner – Clothing Store
 - Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit – Hannon Properties, LLC; 307 Cleveland Street, Ste B; Dan Hannon Owner – Real Estate Sales and Service
 - Occupational Tax Certificate & Sign Permit – Simply Healthy; 211 Cleveland Street; David Rommel, Owner – Health Supplements
- Motion was made by Councilmember Betty Easter, seconded by Councilmember Robert Moore with a roll call vote – Councilmembers Easter, Moore, Dyer and Cook – to adjourn meeting. 6:32 p.m.

Kaye McCann, City Clerk

Approved by City Council 10/6/2020